Statement-II

Amounts spent (excluding donations) by some of the PSUs on peripheral/social welfare activities for the last four years.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the PSU	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
SAIL	231.00	297.18	280.50	425.30
KIOCL	Nil	Nil	30.50	9.40
RINL	—	174.28	314.00	107.06
MECON	2.53	3.59	3.31	4.39
NMDC	0.16	27.94	24.01	17.94

Effect of Late Monsoon on Crops

*291. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the late monsoon has adversely affected the Kharif crop particularly the staples like Bajra and Jowar and pulses such as Urad and Moong;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) the overall quantum of crop which has been affected in the floods in Punjab and Haryana;

(d) whether due to dry spell the crop has been affected in Western Maharashtra particularly in Nasik, Ahmednagar and Pune districts and in Aurangabad district of Marathwada; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR):

(a) and (b) The late arrival of monsoon has slightly affected the kharif crops like Jowar, Bajra due to delayed sowing. Production of Kharif coarse cereals during the current year may be lower by about 1 million tonnes as compared to that of last year. The kharif pulses have not been reported to be affected adversely in the current year.

(c) As per reports received from the States, standing rice crop in an area of 2.53 and 6.62 lakh hectares was reported to have been affected by the floods in varying degree during 1995 in Punjab and Haryana respectively.

(d) and (e) Due to dry spell of about three weeks in the month of August, the standing crops were affected in the districts of Western Maharashtra, particularly in Nasik, Ahmednagar and Pune, and Aurangabad district of Marathwada. The magnitude of impact varied from 10 to 30 percent in various districts.

Upgradation of the Status of Central Ground Water Board

*292. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade the status of the Central Ground Water Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the date from which the status of the Board is likely to be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Water Resources to study, inter alia, the upgradation of the status of Central Ground Water Board.

(b) A High Level Multi-Disciplinary Committee constituted by the Government had made recommendations concerning revised goals, objectives, organisational structure, functions and responsibilities of the Board in terms of its achievements and also keeping in view the developments in this field over the